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**NL INDUSTRIES/TARACORP SUPERFUND SITE GROUP  
LEED ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.**

**124 Deborah Drive  
Reading, PA 19610  
Telephone: (610) 670-7310  
Telecopy: (610) 670-7311**

January 2, 2003

**First Class Mail**

Mr. Brad Bradley  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

**RE: NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site; Granite City, Illinois  
Consent Decree  
Voluntary Progress Report 44 (December 2002)**

Dear Mr. Bradley:

As requested by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), two copies of this letter are submitted on behalf of the NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site Group ("Group") on a voluntary basis to provide EPA with a progress report for activities related to the remediation of the residential lots and remote fill areas, the remediation of the Taracorp pile, the remedial action for groundwater, and operation and maintenance activities that were performed in regard to the NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site (the "site") during December 2002.

**1. Actions Taken During Previous Month to Comply with the Consent Decree:**

- On December 2, 2002, the Group's project coordinator issued a voluntary progress report to EPA.
- During December 2002, representatives of the Group's Technical Committee continued to discuss EPA's plans and schedule for the five-year review to be performed in 2003.

**2. Summary of Data and/or Results of Sampling and Tests Received:**

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

**3. Work Plans, Plans, and Other Deliverables Completed and Submitted to EPA During the Previous Month:**

- Not applicable for this reporting period.

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



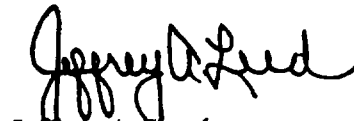
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4. **Actions, Data Collection, and Implementation of Work Plans and Other Information Related to the Progress of Construction which are Scheduled to be Performed During the Next Six-Week Period:**
  - The Group will perform operation and maintenance requirements at the site, as required.
  - The Group will continue to discuss the five-year review process with EPA.
5. **Problems Encountered, Anticipated Problems, Actual or Anticipated Delays, and Efforts Developed or Implemented to Mitigate Delays:**
  - Not applicable for this reporting period.
6. **Modifications to Work Plans or Schedules Proposed to EPA or Approved by EPA:**
  - Not applicable for this reporting period.
7. **Community Relations Activities During Previous Month or to be Undertaken During Next Six-Week Period:**
  - Not applicable for this reporting period.

Should you or your staff have questions or comments regarding this progress report, please contact this office at (610) 670-7310.

Very truly yours,

**LEED ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.**



Jeffrey A. Leed  
Project Coordinator

cc: Ms. Sandra Bron - Illinois EPA (by first class mail)  
Mr. Jack Kratzmeyer - ARCADIS (by first class mail)  
Mr. Rich Wood - ENTACT, Inc. (by first class mail)  
Technical Committee, NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site Group (by first class mail)